

The Memphis Depot  
Bldg. 144, Suite 137  
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Memphis, TN 38114

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## FOR YOUR INFORMATION.....

The Information Repositories are at the following locations:

**The Depot, 2163 Airways Blvd., Bldg. 144,  
Memphis, TN (901) 544-0613**

The Community Outreach Room is located in Building 144. Please call ahead for an appointment to ensure that we are available to help you.

**Memphis/Shelby County Health  
Department, Pollution Control Division  
814 Jefferson Ave., Memphis, TN  
(901) 576-7775**

The Pollution Control Division is open Monday to Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**Memphis/Shelby County Public Library,  
Cherokee Branch, 3300 Sharpe Ave.,  
Memphis, TN (901) 743-3655**

The Cherokee Branch is open Monday to Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Thursday from noon to 6:30 p.m., and Saturday from noon to 6 p.m.

**Hillview Village Neighborhood  
Network Systems, 2119 Alcy Rd.,  
Memphis, TN 38114 (901) 743-0500**

The office is open Monday to Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

## HOW TO REACH US....

If you have any questions or comments about the Depot's environmental cleanup program, please feel free to contact any one of the following:

### John DeBack

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Visit the Depot's website at [www.ddc.dla.mil/memphis](http://www.ddc.dla.mil/memphis)



EnviroNews is published by the Memphis Depot to update the public on the environmental cleanup program. If you have comments, questions, or suggestions for future articles, please call Ms. Alma Black Moore at (901) 544-0613.

# Groundwater Pumping System aids clean-up

The Dunn Field Groundwater Pumping System continues to serve as a successful interim cleanup action for removing affected groundwater under Dunn Field.

In 1998, seven pumping wells were installed to control the flow of groundwater from moving to off-site areas beyond Dunn Field. These wells were located at 100-foot depths along the west fence line.

In 1999, four additional wells were added to enhance the effectiveness of the system and increase the capture area for affected groundwater.

From October 2000 to March 2001, the Depot's contractors upgraded the Groundwater Pumping System. Six pumps were replaced, wellhead piping assemblies were modified, and the four new wells were connected to the existing system.

Since 1998, the Groundwater Pumping System has removed approximately 82 million gallons of water. After the groundwater is removed, it is sent through a pipeline to the municipal sanitary sewer system for treatment.

Ongoing monitoring tests of the pumped water are also showing success in reducing the level of impacts in the groundwater. Total volatile organic compounds (VOCs) levels have decreased by approximately 50 percent while levels of trichloroethene (TCE) have decreased by approximately 45 percent. This means that the pumping system is doing a good job of removing affected groundwater.

The Groundwater Pumping System will continue to operate until a long-term solution is confirmed. The results of groundwater monitoring will be included in the Dunn Field Remedial Investigation (RI), which will define the nature and extent of affected groundwater. The RI will also include a Baseline Risk Assessment to assess the potential impact of the affected groundwater on human health and the environment.

The final RI report is scheduled for completion by October 2001. An update on groundwater monitoring at Dunn Field will be presented at the June 21, 2001 RAB meeting. For more information, please contact the Depot's Community Relations office at (901) 544-0613.

## You Asked...

At Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meetings, community members ask questions about the Depot's environmental program and the chemical warfare materiel (CWM) removal project. Below are just a few of the Q&As that can also be found on the Depot's website at [www.ddc.dla.mil/memphis](http://www.ddc.dla.mil/memphis).

**Q. At the March 2001 RAB meeting, it was reported that two of the 29 empty bomb casings were found with burster tubes still intact. What is the status of these bursters and how will they be disposed?**

A. After the burster tubes were successfully removed from all 29 of the empty bomb casings, they were further investigated by the Chemical Warfare Materiel (CWM) experts to confirm that they were free of explosive materiel. The team was successful in conducting tests on 27 of the 29 burster tubes and confirmed that they do not contain any explosives. The two intact burster tubes were packaged and transported to an approved disposal facility outside Tennessee, where they will be safely disposed in accordance with local and state health and safety regulations. The remaining 27 burster tubes were disposed with the empty bomb casings.

**Q. Do these burster tubes contain mustard agent?**

A. No. We have confirmed that all mustard agent was drained from the bomb casings in 1946 before the empty casings were buried at Dunn Field. According to all historical records, which have been confirmed by tests performed on 27 of the 29 empty bomb casings, these burster tubes did not contain mustard.

**Q. Have all of the empty bomb casings been transported off-site to an approved disposal location?**

A. All soil and waste materials that were excavated during the CWM removal action have been removed from the site and safely transported to approved waste management facilities out of state.

**Q. Will there be additional tests at Dunn Field to ensure that all CWM has been removed?**

A. At the completion of each removal action at the three CWM sites, tests were taken around the edges and bottom of the excavations to confirm that no CWM or related by products remain in the surrounding soil. While the environmental cleanup at Dunn Field will continue until the entire area is confirmed safe for the intended future use, we are confident that all CWM products have been successfully removed. No further testing for CWM will be required. Additional cleanup actions that are recommended for Dunn Field will be identified in a Remedial Investigation (RI) that is expected to be available for public review in the fall of 2001.

**Q. Are the early removal actions completed at the family housing, cafeteria, old paint shop and maintenance, dip vat and soil areas on the Main Installation?**

A. Yes. Approximately 602 cubic yards of soil were removed from the dip vat area at Building 737. This work was completed in 1985 and is outlined in the report entitled: Summary Report, On-Site Remedial Activities at the Defense Depot Memphis: February 24, 1986.

Approximately 3,700 cubic yards of soil were removed from the housing area. This work was completed in October 1998 and is outlined in a report entitled: Post Removal Report, Family Housing Area, Memphis Depot, Tennessee, Volumes I and II: OHM/IT Remediation Services Inc., 1999.

Approximately 400 cubic yards of soil were removed from the area near the cafeteria (Building 274). This work was completed in November 1998 and is outlined in the report entitled: Post Removal Report, Cafeteria Building, Memphis Depot, Tennessee: OHM/IT Remediation Services Inc., 1999.

Approximately 980 cubic yards of soil were removed from near Buildings 1084, 1085, 1087, 1088, 1089 and 1090. This work was completed in August 2000 and is outlined in the report entitled: